

February 22, 2022

Dear Chairman Cohen, Chairman Gresko and Distinguished Members of the Environment Committee,

*I am writing in support of House Bill No. 5145 - AN ACT CONCERNING THE USE OF PORTABLE WASTEWATER CONTAINERS."*

"To allow the use of portable wastewater holding tanks, known as "blue boys", for transferring wastewater from a camping unit to a sanitary disposal station at both state and private campgrounds."

At this point, use of blue boy tanks is approved in state operated campgrounds but not in private family campgrounds in Connecticut. This has resulted in numerous complaints by campers who camp in both state and private family campgrounds. They don't understand why it's ok in one situation but not in another.

The blue boy tanks that are used are designed specifically for the purpose of bringing wastewater to the proper dump station. They are commonly used everywhere camping takes place.

As a smaller campground, the impact of not using blue boys has shortened the stay of many campers who don't want to resort to using the dump station several times during their stay.

The campground industry in Connecticut is a **significant economic contributor** with almost a quarter of a billion dollars (\$210,700,000) of expenditures annually. Eighty-six dollars (\$86) per person/per day or \$344 per family of four per day is spent in the community. Almost 1,000 direct jobs with \$36.1 million in annual direct wages are a result of these small businesses. (Sources: RV Industry Association, Connecticut Campground Owners Association, Connecticut Center for Economic Analysis, Bureau of Economic Analysis, National Association of RV Parks and Camping - ARVC)

Sincerely,

Phil and Elaine Cotnoir  
Peppertree Camping  
Eastford, CT